

Keep the net a neutral place where free speech is a human right.

—David Paul Niland, salthill Galway,

Please don't let the U.S.A, a country that i live in and is grateful to be apart of become a country that i loathe to the point that i would rather live in a third world country... This is America and America is free physically as well as technologically.

—Devon Davila, San Antonio, TX

The internet is an invaluable resource. And if big corporations destroyed net neutrality as they're attempting to do. We would see this resource taken away or hampred for millions of lower class Americans. Please protect net neutrality so that all Americans can have fair access to the internet by having ISPs as common carriers.

—Andrey Ososkov, Plymouth, MN

Without it, the ability to even ask questions such as these. Those without money lose the ability to speak openly. The Internet is a neccesity in this modern age and net neutrality is a must. Any corporation that supports the abolishment of net neutrality is only making the world a worse off place.

—Mike, El Cajon, CA

Because clearly you're predatory creatures who can't be trusted with more power over the economic and sociopolitical well being of the citizens of the United States and the well being our public forum. You have prostituted yourselves to the greed of corporations and short term interest and seem to have lost interest in upholding the law. Furthermore, the Chairman, simply by being the chairman of this Organization (or shall I say brothel (or den)) sits as a blatant case of government conflict of interests. Its important to me because it brings the world and a vast store of knowledge right in front of us, it allows more humans than ever in history to have meaningful communication. Its important to me because I hate to see it ruined in the name of greed. Its important to me because it somehow failed to be important to you.

—Anthony, Bronx, NY

I'm in New Zealand and if America does something, we'll probably end up following. So don't screw it up for the rest of us: keep the internet neutral.

—Chris Jones, Auckland,

My position on this is as blunt and succinct as I can make it. If we don't feel a need to charge people for using the interstate as a faster way to get from here to there, why should we charge people looking just-as-efficient travel from here to there on the web? Answer: Because its bad.

—Ethan Gorham, Nashville, TN

Net neutrality is important to me because I don't need corporations telling me what is must important to me. Or stuffing smaller blogs out of high speed access. It's blatant channeling of traffic and this is not acceptable. It is time to stop listening to corporations more than people. Their voices are not louder just because they have more money. NO FAST LANES. No paying extra fur quicker delivery. I pay my internet bill on time just like anyone else. I don't need anyone telling me what I need more quickly. I can be the judge of what deserves a click and what does not.

—Serena, America, AL

Dear FCC, the internet has become a necessity. In mordern life to access information, peoples finances and even govt. Websites as well as provide a mordern forum to discuss new ideas. And it is the breeding ground of new technologies, new industries, and new solutions to problems that plague humanity. Allowing net neutrality to die will be positive. Proof that the FCC. cares more about cash then the people for whom it regulates technology, and that the FCC serves no purpose but to limit options to the consumer and hold back progress ~former beleiver in capitalism

—Brendan, modesto, CA

It's important because we shouldn't be letting some assholes hinder the progression of communication as a whole and fuck a lot of people over. Without it many sites would cease to exist and the internet as a whole would probably collapse. Let's not let that happen because some greedy CEOs think they're doing something for the greater good when they actually aren't.

—Daniel Michalowski, Taylorsville, KY

I like the opportunity to support small local businesses with my traffic and purchases. This includes any number of start-up companies trying to make it in the US these days by hiring locally and manufacturing domestically. It will be a huge loss for them if customers are not able to utilize their website and a huge loss for our economy which is starting to revive thanks in a great part to these types of businesses. Please keep our internet free from the meddlesome hands of be ISPs!

—Sarah Mosher, Seattle, WA

Regarding net neutrality, why would you change a way of being that has resulted in 20+ years of unprecedented success? Do you consider the likes of AT&T, Verizon and Comcast to be plucky small businesses in need of assistance to become profitable? Permanently classifying ISPs as common carriers is a rarity in today's world: a thing that is self-evidently good for every American. So many small businesses that could not have even existed before the public Internet existed have launched, and many have flourished. An Internet that is fair for everyone is the modern expression of the level playing field that has made our country great. I urge you to resist the unjust influence of the moneyed and powerful. Instead, do the right thing and make the 21st the second American century.

—Douglas Butler, San Francisco, CA

I am a working musician. As an independant artist, my entire career and livelihood depends on my ability to promote myself and sell my music online, and that makes it a lot harder to do if my bottom lines go up because streaming services have to pay for fast lanes, and pass on the costs to the consumers of what were initially free services... especially when it's so difficult to get people to pay as little as \$1 for music online. Beyond the personal, it's painful to see how that extra would be a barrier for entry to other less established artists; this would be a blow to the entire arts culture nationwide, and arguably, worldwide. We all lose when the conversation gets smaller, with anything in the media or the arts. Do not let this be the final blow punting our great nation into corporatocracy.

—Mai Li Pittard, Seattle, WA

Net neutrality is simple. You promise to offer a product. The internet. In all its wide, unadulterated glory. You're free to go anywhere you'd like under one service provider, because that service provider is the only one available to you thanks to the unfortunate circumstance that you live in what constitutes 90% of America's landmass that isn't a major population center. Eliminating net neutrality means that for no reason other than "the provider doesn't like this," the rate at which a site is provided can be severely handicapped, to the point that the site is unusable. Go ahead, use a computer with slow internet. If it takes minutes to load a page, it WILL give up. There is not a single benefactor of this other than the cable companies, as I'm sure the countless other arguments have explained far better. And even their benefit would be short-lived and short-sighted. Believe it or not, the country has not raised a generation of sheep. If denied rights through abuse of the loss of net neutrality, the cable companies will not be allowed to stand. It'd be a shame if you were caught in the political cross-fire, eh?

—Joseph Ball, West Chester, OH

By taking away net neutrality you are effectively allowing cable and internet service providers to become the equevelent of monopolies, which if I am not mistaken go against our institution of capitalism and free market. The internet is public domain allowing these companies to control it is like allowing them to charge higher fees for checking out books at the library that don't fit their CEO's moral principles. The internet was not broken don't try to fix it!!

—Cameron, denver, CO

Would "Google" have ever taken off if it had taken several times longer to load a page of search results than whatever existed before Google?? Would Facebook be a thing if the pages loaded at a tenth of the speed of Myspace? Would any number of online businesses have breached the skies of success if the first immediate hurdle was having to shell out bundle of cash just to make their voices heard? It's very simple, really. With net neutrality, every idea, every voice, has an equal chance of taking off, of being heard. Without it, only those already deep in the pockets can afford to continue deepening their pockets, whilst those without the funds are left at the mercy of the patience of those who would be interested enough in their ideas to wait several minutes for the page to load. Simply speaking, if you wish to kill Net Neutrality, you might as well tie a noose around the throat of Innovation while you're at it.

—Travis Vaughn, Crestview, FL

I already have to pay too much for too little when it comes to the internet. As a student, I have to use the internet for research papers and other home work assignments. As someone looking for a new career, the internet lets me scout out potential employers. Just keeping up with my other bills means I have to go online. With out net neutrality, the internet may become so expensive I can't afford to use it any more. Then I'll be left in the dark with the rest of the people who can't afford it.

—Roy Hammonds, Austin, TX

Commercialisation of a public entity is flat out wrong. The Internet started as a free and open platform to share information. It is not up to corporations to decide what is easy to access or not. In that direction lies tyranny and enforced control of information. What is to stop companies from throttling those critical of their practices? Freedom of speech cannot be commercialised and sold to those with enough money.

—Stuart Kaptein, Port Elizabeth,

Please protect net neutrality. It's important to me to get equal access at equal speed on the internet so that I may make educated choices.

—Pradeesh George, Beavercreek, OH

The cable companies' attacks on net neutrality are Un-American! I am in favor of reclassifying ISPs as common carriers.

—Alice, Delaware, OH

They can go fuck themselves.

—John Dickson, Toronto, VA

Go fuck yourselves.

—Fukfcc, fukfccville, WA

Commercial competition. Capitalist theory indicates that success should be based on people freely choosing the superior goods and services, rewarding those who provide them. The problem being that what should be, often is not. The removal of net neutrality allows those with inferior goods and services, but with greater money and influence, to squash their competition without improving their business and thus they 'win' the competition but undermine the capitalist principals that make competition good for the economy. They win without being forced to improve their game.

—Rowak Pollard, Margaret River,

Should we be paying more per unit the more power we use? No, the fee for power usage is independent of use. If it wasn't cable companies would be paying untold fortunes for power as they use massive amounts of power. Should we pay more per unit the more water we use? No, again, large companies would be the first people to complain were they charged in this manner. In fact, in no other industry does that industry want to charge you more per unit when you buy more of their product, it is usually the other way around due to economies of scale. Why exactly should bandwidth and data downloaded be any different?

—Tony Mitchell, Exeter,

Because I'm not a greedy, blood-sucking leech trying to ruin everyone's lives just so I can fatten my wallet.

—Andrew, Rosedale, IN

Because the internet is a place where monopolies shouldn't be allowed to exist, nor new businesses and services hampered, and Net Neutrality protects that.

—Aodhan Drain, Niigata City,

A free and open internet is important to me, not only as a private citizen who enjoys the fact that we live in a first world country where this sort of thing is -possible-. We are lagging behind, massively, in terms of speeds, and allowing the cable companies to drag their feet hinders us economically and socially. The internet is -essential- for almost every business. The internet must be declared a public utility, or at least regulated as one, in order to keep these prices to a reasonable level and the speeds back up to where they ought to be given our status as a global economic power

—Richard Schroyer, yuma, AZ

Why is it that every new ruling makes the companies more money while I lose more services? Cable companies already have a monopoly. There is but one choice in our area despite there being several providers. (Less providers and more higher bills if the Comcast Time Warner merger is allowed.) Now you want to allow them to legally extort money from me to maintain the services I already have. That would be fine if there was true competition. Where I could choose to pay a foreign company to provide my services as well. Where one company actually had to compete with another. But they don't thanks to FCC rules and regulations. But I'll just assume that money will be the deciding factor yet again and I will get screwed per usual.

—Keith Hutchison, Erving, MA

Capitalism relies on a certain degree of freedom of opportunity. From the beginning of this nation, there has been some brand of this freedom, some frontier to cultivate ensuring that each individual can blend their creativity and drive with the needs of the many to better the American quality of life. Now the internet is the final frontier that individuals may use to create and to share their creations with others so as to better their quality of life. Please do not allow cable companies to limit the potential for growth and change. There may be a young person out there ready to build the next great internet company based out of America. And the only way they could do that is by having the freedom of opportunity to allow their idea to grow. The internet as it is already separated us into classes of the digital savy and the digital illiterate based on who has the money and access. Don't allow the proposed changes to separate us into classes of those of us who can afford to create and those of us who must just passively watch. Thanks!

—Karis Ford, Rockwall, TX

C'mon fcc, the fact that Verizon is lobbying against net neutrality should be red flag enough. Don't blow this one. (Sent from Verizon smartphone)

—Keith, Englewood, OH

the FCC is for the people of america not for the companies who want less regulations so they can do as they please.

—Brandon Burkhamer, Akron, OH

The internet is considered a basic human right. America already has a laughably slow inter compared to the rest of the world. Third world countries pay less than we do for faster speeds. I know you will only do what the money tells you to do but I will have my voice heard before you do it. Do not kill net neutrality.

—Phillip Spain, Houston, TX

The internet is one of the only places in the world where people with more money than me can't tell me what to do. I just want that last shred of freedom in this country...

—Freddie Beaman, HEMPSTEAD, NY

It's the only "place" in the Whole Wide World wherein we can go wherever we chose, where we can do what we like, where we can meet others and enjoy our free time without anyone or anything stopping us. To take away the freedom which is already nonexistent in the real world would destroy us again, pigeonholing every individual into one of a FINITE number of choices, instead of the up-to-now practically limitless list. Don't do it, it's not worth the stretch.

—Jan Rešetić, Zagreb,

Because the equality of the internet is part of what makes it so powerful. Giving up on Net Neutrality is giving someone control over the internet. After that, it almost doesn't matter that it would give that awesome power to the likes of Comcast and Verizon. Almost.

—Christopher Lindahl, Hattiesburg, MS

Net Neutrality is important for independent music artists, whose basis has been built off the vast amount of music sites online. We as Americans are already bombarded on the radio with what the record companies WANT us to hear. How can we hope to discover new music if the sites are shut down or our speeds are so severely reduced that downloading or listening to someone's music online would be impossible? I as an independent artist would have no following would it not be for the internet and many MANY different music sites. Please do not end Net Neutrality because we are an equal country and that is what NEUTRAL implies, EQUAL for all!

—Richard Bergman, Raleigh, NC

I do not want to pay money for my ISP to slow down my connection! Net neutrality is fine the way it is, don't let big companies bully us!

—Rosalina Villarreal, El Monte, CA

true net neutrality is equal speeds for everyone !

—Kim Gudmundsrud, JESSHEIM,

We the People are weary of corporations having more say in mass media - and in what opinions get heard (and considered valid) - than we do.

—Jerod C. Batte, Odessa, TX

Freedom of speech for all, not for some.

—Wesley Clark, Salt Lake City, UT

Net neutrality will granted the ability for every website to compete fairly to provide the services, which will lead to a necessity to improve this same services. And eventually the country will pay a high price for this when websites start moving to be hosted in other countries, like China.

—Mario, lisboa,

Dear FCC We, the public, are perfectly fine with the equality of the speed of the internet to all levels of the internet. We are fine that everyone get the same level of consideration when starting up websites, in that they all start on the same level. We do not want to be charged more to get the same speed we always have, or charged less to receive an extremely slow version they will tell us was normal. We disapprove of Comcast's bullying of Netflix to pay them more or slow down their time. Net Neutrality ensures everyone is linked in together and on the same page as they should be via the same speed internet as each other, as the internet seems to be becoming a commodity, and for many people's jobs, is a necessity. The cable and internet companies have been perfectly fine up until now and always will be rich and unfair business men as long as they live without Net Neutrality being shut down. They will remain powerful, rich and on top of the world without people's right to free speech and expression being shot down. They will always have the government by the balls without the need to sue them over a law passed out of desperation to avoid their needless control to stay unregulated to an extreme. Please put these men back in their places. We were all taught never to let a bully get the best of us. That includes adult life.

—Celeste Kaudewitz, Kitchener,

Don't allow the net to become a "class system", didn't we get rid of that thinking centuries ago? Stop with the haves and have nots, everyone in this tech world relies on using the internet, kids are required to use it for school, very sad when they say, Mom and Dad's internet is too slow or they can't afford it. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers and stop the nonsense!

—Tracy Goggin, Dania Beach, FL

There is already too much discrimination in this world when it comes to money. Access to information should not be based on how much money and power you have. We need to go forwards not backwards.

—Kate, Margaret River,

Internet is already expensive (\$65 WITHOUT a TV Service from Comcast, one who would destroy Net Neutrality). Please don't let corporations run the country.

—Brandon Deardorff, York, PA

Eliminating net neutrality will be a crushing blow to small businesses that rely on the internet. They will be unable to compete with the established million dollar corporations

—Brad Newton, Statesville, NC

We need net neutrality to not have our freedom of speech completely killed off. We need net neutrality to stop corporate greediness and the abuse on the average customer. We need net neutrality so everyone can have access to the internet to connect with everyone else around the world.

—Diana, Spanish Fork, UT

The internet is the telephone of the new millennium. We continue to fund phone service for rural areas as a common good - the internet should be no different. We shouldn't create 'haves' and 'have nots' on this important communication platform.

—Robert Hays, Woodland Hills, CA

I'm a Navy Veteran, and I want you to know, that you disappoint me in so many ways. You are striving to kill the Internet's freedom, all for that dollar sign bottom line. Don't be Evil.

—Joseph U Hopkins, Pleasant Hill, MO

Removing net neutrality will destroy the very idea and spirit of the web. The web shouldn't be shackled by big business and be turned into just another tool to extract money from people. Coming from a poor family, had something like this occurred when I was still a teenage, it would have left me at a severe disadvantage with regards to my financially better off peers. Please do not this.

—Ismael Emambocus, London,

Don't fuck up the internet. We have a good thing. Leave it alone.

—Sean Inskeep, Decatur, IN

I don't want someone to place a value on the information I send. I pay for a service, access to the internet, to my friends and family, I don't want to have to pay more for 'better' access. Following that trend, the internet would only really be for rich people. I think this undermines the idea the internet has become. It's the hive mind of society, a society too large to operate entirely independently. On the internet we all have an equal voice. Without neutrality, we become the mindless sheep we were decades ago, seeing only the information the broadband companies and the wealthy want us to see. Losing net neutrality would undo all the progress humanity has made in the last 20 years.

—Benjamin Paige, Eliot, ME

Net neutrality is a vital component of free speech. If it were to be removed, the highest bidder would have the fastest access to their website. It shouldn't matter what you want to look at online. Your blender doesn't get better electricity access because it's made by KitchenAid instead of Hamilton Beach, why should Verizon's website get faster access than a middle schooler's blog?

—Mike Lopez, Atlanta, GA

Lobbyists paid by companies should not be allowed to pretend to be us and claim that we want to be charged for. Net neutrality is needed.

—Adam Materne, San Marcos, TX

Throw out your nonsense rules and reclassify ISPs as common carriers. Nobody is interested in your fast lane favoritism and money-grubbing.

—Owen Murdoch, Livingston,

The fact is, if you want to talk about freedom of speech, you need to talk about a person. Every American has the right to freedom of speech, by slowing certain sites down, you're restricting that freedom. Many young Americans with a voice, will be silenced. Blog spots will run slow, while the biggest companies, get the fastest running sites. You're opening a door for more bribes and more corruption inside the industry. I have aspergers syndrome and think outside the box, I depend on independent news sites, blogs, forums, articles, and documentaries to keep me informed, where the mainstream will not.... If Netflix is slowed down because it is not paying the extra fees comcast will be able to charge, a lot of people will miss out on many great documentary films that can really open their minds up. The Internet is about sharing and information, don't let cable companies take that away from us, the PEOPLE of the United States.

—Zach, Jefferson, OR

Net Neutrality means that no one gets to tell me what I can and can not look at, that I, a 22-year-old Computer Science student, have the same rights to view, create and display whatever information I should choose as a multi-billion dollar corporation. That my right as an American to express myself however I want should not be determined by how much money I have.

—Chris Beam, Hockessin, DE

Dear FCC, I would have loved it if you had taken the other 99% (of internet users) into account when writing up these terrible, terrible internet rules. The credibility of the FCC is at stake, let alone the near-future of The Internet. By now it must seem to the public as if the FCC is being held hostage by anti-net neutrality lobbyists and bullshit advocacy groups. The Big Three cable companies are acting increasingly violent towards net neutrality, trying to bend certain amendments through impossible corners so their cause could benefit. Should they see their own kind of "Free Speech" realised, it would cripple the freedom of speech of every woman or man that needs an open internet. The internet should be a basic utility to everyone, equally.

—Gilles Rouquart, Brugge,

The Internet is not copyrighted, and should never be restricted to those who wish to use it. This is a sad ploy by rich men who want to become even richer, and to what purpose? They say that Net Neutrality infringes on their freedom of speech, but killing Neutrality also kills my right to speak freely, as well as millions of people in this country who already pay money to utilize this service. We already pay good money to access a free Internet. Don't lead our future into George Orwell's "1984." Pulling the plug on Net Neutrality will do just that.

—K Witherow, Ayer, MA

The internet is for everybody, this is like controlling the access to books based on how much the authors pay you. It's ridiculous and unethical. The magic of the internet is its freedom of information, making a wide range of interests and activities accessible to everybody, to control that to squash small economy, well its just like the mafia taking "protection" bribes. Your saying your helping just by allowing a business to profit of their own success. No business should get to control my viewing or affect the affordability of my sites. The entire premise is silly, controlling the speed of the internet? Like its a finite resource? There is no need for this, no one wants this. This whole scheme has been cooked up to make money. For this to be accepted would be to admit a failure of governance, that congress no longer listens to its' citizens, just money and big business. Is that the country that you want to live in?

—Amanda Eggers, Takaka,

More and more of the world is being run by companies that throw money at things to get their way. The only reason people don't want net neutrality is if they stand to make money. If freedom of speech is really what America strives for, there is absolutely no call to end net neutrality. The internet is one of the only truly free places people can express themselves, the more control companies have over it, the less freedom we have.

—Michael, Leeds,

Don't be stupid. Everyone deserves the right to the Internet, and everyone should be able to afford the same Internet.

—Pranay, Johns Creek, GA

Internet access has become an important tool used in everyday life. Some studies suggest it is a crucial for success in academics and business. Just because a handful of the most powerful companies can and are willing to pay for exclusive service doesn't mean they should be allowed to. A good example is the current "Buy a congressman" approach to government. These companies are not altruistic in motive, a simple glance at the amount of money they are throwing at the "Net Neutrality Problem", as they see it, should be evidence enough. A company invests in its future to make more money and crush its competition. That money is an investment in their future to make more money and crush the competition, namely any other business that uses the internet services to survive.

—Jason Goates, Springfield, OR

Net neutrality is important to me because the internet would not be as big and important as it is today if it were tiered. An open internet is important for innovation, communication, and research. A tiered internet would become what cable/satellite TV have become: Expensive and dying.

—Christopher Whipple, Naples, FL

It seems to me like a very strange idea to put so much power in the hands of people and organizations with very good reasons to abuse that power..

—Thomas, Amsterdam,

if you mess with the internet you gonna have a bad time, dont mess with the internets :)

—Hmo Nub, Skopje,

Net Neutrality is simply a way that every website, every blog, every private post can be held up to the same standards as larger ones for equality.

—Fs Asdf, omaha, FL

Net Neutrality helps secure the freedoms I have grown accustom to. I will do everything I can to prevent these freedoms from being taken from me.

—James Timms, Aberystwyth,

Dear FCC, Please protect net neutrality. You should know by now that the only people that will be helped by letting ISPs do what they want are their shareholders and the wealthy who can afford to pay more for faster Internet. The Internet has always been an equalizing ground, and should stay that way. The same for all. You, and the government at large, should work for the common man, not the one percent. It is your duty. Please protect the net. Thank you

—Jatinderpal Singh, Grand rapids, MI

Please protect citizens' rights, not corporations.

—Kyle Holody, Myrtle Beach, SC

Five words at least... Fuck comcast, verizon, at&t and more.

—John, Fuckland,

Net neutrality is in place to ensure fair business practices. There is no legitimate reason for the removal of a policy that works to protect our economy. Removing net neutrality would only be the next step In a trend of legislation that gives large companies the freedom to do whatever they want. These companies exploit loopholes at every chance they get to earn profit, the removal of net neutrality can only have negative effects for anyone besides cable companies.

—Daniel pitti, Dix hills, NY

Net neutrality is important because without it these cable companies essentially limit the greatest resource everyone has. The internet has become the go to source for information, advice, entertainment, news, and communication. To allow private companies to dictate the flow of that information is to disenfranchise a lot of people. It would recreate the "1%" economy on a potentially global scale with massive consequences. At the very least, certain websites should be exempt from those requirements by category, not by price. Hospitals, police departments, schools, and news to name a few. From an academic standpoint it also potentially alters the legitimacy of information that could be found, say a student is doing research on a project, or for a paper. From what I've seen in practice, search engines already populate results in order of who paid what, but without net neutrality you may effectively not have access to the information you need in today's mobile society. There needs to be heavy regulation to ensure that anyone can realistically enjoy the right to information.

—Briana Dangerfield, Raleigh, NC

Net Neutrality is one of the most pivotal moments in the history of the Internet. Violating Net Neutrality and giving in to the corrupt cable companies would be a mistake of epic proportion. By not listening to the word of the people and being bribed by billion dollar cable companies the US Congress is publicly stating that they have no intent on even maintaining this charade of "democracy." We the people do NOT vote people in to power so that they can be bribed by corrupt corporations to take away our basic freedoms. Reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Dylan Kent, Boston, MA

Cable companies need to be regulated. They are proposing a way for them to charge unlimited amounts for their services, using ridiculous logic to justify their position. They need to be stopped. In an age where the internet is so important for everyone, what the cable companies are proposing is a heinous monopoly. As a single mother who will be going back to school, taking online courses, I implore you to stop these antics and maintain net neutrality!

—Julia Cisneros, Las Vegas, NV

this will turn the internet into other utilities like gas or water, and then services providers will be able to band together and raise prices forcing everyone to pay or not use the internet. this will severely damage the average person and business alike, which will then ruin the economy. http://www.cracked.com/quick-fixes/5-absurd-cable-company-ex-cuses-killing-internet_p2/ this link shows the evilness of cable companies with this kind of power

—Jordan Felton, Cardiff,

The Internet is for everyone. Not profit. Leave it alone. Pretty please. Go take a gold-dust shower or whatever you guys do for R&R.

—Anders Birkdal, Gammel Holte,

Net Neutrality has been one of the greatest boons to the corps of human knowledge in modern history, if not all history. The free spread of information - at equal rates for all people - has toppled governments and advanced social progress. The only clear reason to allow for this challenge to Net Neutrality is greed on the part of those who benefit from ISP lobbying. With government mistrust at a high, this would be simply the most obvious movement of a decaying government system, and would usher in real anger among the many who currently enjoy the Internet. I urge you to reject the rules that would allow ISPs to discriminate and hinder the progress the Internet can provide. Protect Net Neutrality, and classify ISPs as common carriers.

—Parker Murff, Jackson, MS

Net neutrality lets the internet be a free and open market for everyone. Ending net neutrality would mean allowing those with the most money to dominate the internet and strangle any smaller competition.

—Nicole Krynski, Oldsmar, FL

Dear FCC, Although it may seem reasonable to allow communication companies to provide faster access to more popular sites so as to create the most efficient system to please as many people as possible, it is actually a very flawed perspective. Companies rationalize allocating less bandwidth to smaller sites by arguing that since those sites have such small audiences that only a small minority of web surfers will be inconvenienced by these practices, but the truth is that almost all if not all internet goers regularly visit a few small sites. People have a variety of different needs and interests which is why there are so many different websites available. They may not all appeal to everyone but each of them appeals to someone, and restricting their availability becomes an inconvenience to everyone. Imagine how aggravating it would be to have Google return 500,000 results to your search in .01 seconds and have it take ten minutes to direct you to your desired page because it's one of hundreds of thousands of equally small sites which can't afford to pay the cable companies for decent connectivity. I sincerely hope that you will decide to defend net neutrality and continue to ensure the best possible experience for everyone on the web. Yours cordially, Adrian Esqueda

—Adrian, Hollister, CA

ISPs and cell phone providers MUST be classified as common carriers and regulated as such. The internet is a core utility. None of us can do our jobs as citizens or as workers without it. A "fast lane" for some means degraded access to everything and everyone else. Disasterous! How do we have a democracy when journalists or dissenters or new ideas are relegated to sites that are blocked or slowed down? How do new ideas and products gain traction when older competition can easily squash their ability to communicate with potential customers? Do the right thing. Prevent oligopoly control of this KEY utility for a vibrant marketplace and democratic exchange of information. Please listen to us!!! Thank you.

—Jennifer Beer, Lansdowne, PA

Do not cater to the cable companies' money. Do not sell your ethics and integrity. Listen to the ACTUAL American people who have researched the issue and tell you now that we support Net Neutrality. The Internet is not just a source for entertainment, but for valuable information for students. I am a doctor of pharmacy candidate at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and to allow cable companies to have "fast lanes" jeopardizes any student's access to education. Do the right thing. Uphold true Net Neutrality, and reject the two-tiered Internet.

—Margaret Marshall, Horsham, PA

If we want to say we're free then we have to pass legislation that makes us free. Protect Net Neutrality.

—Patrick Kinney, Manchester, CT

Net Neutrality is one of those issues where the will of the people is so blatantly and fundamentally obvious, that failure on behalf of Congress to protect it would be indisputable proof that this government is not serving the people, but rather the big cable companies, even though Americans already pay some of the highest prices for the worst internet speeds in the world. I understand it's a representative republic, and not strict democracy, and I also understand that there are far more important issues in the country, but there's absolutely no excuse for this one to go any way but against the cable companies. The amount of corruption is astonishing. So much so that if Net Neutrality isn't maintained, they're basically saying "we're not your government anymore".

—Bryant Westerholm, North Charleston, SC

Don't discriminate against lower classes, everyone should be able to communicate through the Internet

—Soren Blomquist Eggerling, Hallock, MN

Net neutrality is important to me because 14 years ago I was a teenager playing a small start-up video game on the internet, that's where I met the man of my dreams. The extra costs that would now be associated with providing the speed necessary to play would have killed that game before it even got started. How many people out there will miss their chance at finding the love of their life if small mmorp's are strangled out of existence by higher cost "fast lane" access that would be necessary for these games to function? Protect free speech. Protect small communities like our game was and message boards devoted to small or retired games. These havens only hold a few hundred people, but those are people who deserve the right to communicate as quickly as any big-name site.

—Holly Abouk, Plano, TX

I am all for ending Net Neutrality. It is the American Way, after all. A two-tiered Internet Access System will perfectly match our two-tiered Justice System and Economic System and give Corporate Personhood, particularly ultra-wealthy Cable Corporate Personhood, the same "rights" and lack of responsibility to the general welfare that the rest of their peers, particularly too-big-to-jail Banking peers, presently enjoy. Let's face it, lack of local competition isn't enough, Verizon, Comcast, Cox, AT&T, Mediacom and the rest need more in order to ensure their survival relative to the massive competition they may potentially face in some unknown future parallel fourth-dimensional world.

—John Cusick, Willard, NY

Net neutrality is important because without it, free speech is stymied. Giving ISPs the ability to put hindrances on websites that would complain about them, our free speech itself is hindered.

—Alex Lear, Annapolis, MD

Removing Net Neutrality will have a severe impact on how the common man operates. Without Net Neutrality, ISPs will have the power and ability to force opinions on common users (an example being blocking a political party website due to it not sharing the ISP's views). Net Neutrality provides access to unlimited knowledge and learning on the web. Without it, ISPs would be free to decide what knowledge was distributed, effectively blocking free speech through the media and other means, such as blogs. Keeping the internet neutral is the only way to guarantee fair usage to all subscribers, and to maintain the freedoms established by the US Constitution.

—Michael Kelley, Hendersonville, TN

Dear FCC, I am Mies van Berlo, a Twenty year old student and citizen from the Netherlands, so why would I bother with writing a comment on this webpage you might wonder? Well, the answer is very simple: because the internet is a global network connecting people all over the world, which means that if appalling laws are about to come into existence, laws that will change the character of the internet and therefore of also the character of global relationships between ordinary people, I will make my voice be heard, even if these laws are not concerning my own country. Because there is more to the world than your own country, and the internet has been one of the driving forces behind that development, a development of which I believe is key to the creation of mutual understanding between cultures, and because of this, it is crucial for creation of a more peaceful world. So to the American cable companies, no, to all the cable companies I say: please keep your mitts away from Internet neutrality, so that ideas, creative concepts and global communication can keep on running freely. Yours sincerely, Mies van Berlo

—Mies van Berlo, Uden,

Because I support the idea of the internet as a world wide creative tool and network. I support the opportunities the internet provides to everyone, equally with out discrimination from detached corporations. Don't set the precedent of a government sanctioned shut down of a communicative tool.

—Nickolas Aitken, Auckland,

The internet shouldn't be left in the hands of some rich elite. The news shouldn't be up to you at the Fcc on or big company. It should be free and any one should be able to post what they think and feel.

—Ryan Uppercue, Boonsboro, MD

Net neutrality is the only truly free expression left in this country. Print and television media are warped by the interests of the companies that own them; the internet, as full of conspiracy theories, massive time wasters and general bullcrap as it may be, is the last frontier for people not being paid by cable companies to enjoy absolutely free expression. Allowing the cable companies (and their shell "public interest" groups like the Heartland Institute and the American Consumer Institute) to control the information superhighway via the ability to charge ISPs and consumers whatever they damn well please for good access directly undermines that expression. It's unclear whether or not the cable titans are even considering the impact on free expression - they just want more money. Either way, allowing net neutrality to be stabbed through the heart by these companies does everything for them and zilch for the American people. Please don't allow this to happen.

—Michael Toland, Austin, TX

Net neutrality is in the best interest of the people because it allows them to use what is the biggest information and data storage system to do a lot of what they feel like doing without worrying if some corporation does or doesn't support it. That there is freedom.

—Diego Leon, Pharr, TX

Because the internet has become the new public forum. It is the medium with the most potential to inspire democratic ideals and freedom of speech for everyone.

—Jonathan Quin, Colorado Springs, CO

The internet has almost certainly been the most democratic invention since the typewriter. It has allowed people, regardless of color, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic class, etc... to broadcast their beliefs to the world. As evidenced just a few months ago in Turkey, the internet can be used to peacefully demonstrate the will of the people, much to the chagrin of the people in power. And the cable companies want to get rid of that. They are trying to convince Congress that they should have the sole responsibility in deciding the volume on the people's megaphones, and, moreover, that this responsibility is Constitutionally protected! It is absurd, to say the least. With all bickering over the second amendment (an amendment that has always existed to ultimately protect the American people from the Powers-that-be), it would be nothing short of a travesty for these companies' lobbyists to succeed in creating multiple-tiered internet. And if the FCC is to be implicit in allowing this to happen, then that would be the greatest handicap to American democracy since the Jim Crow laws.

—Erik M Mahan, Great Falls, VA

Net neutrality is essential. What happened to the free market system? Already I'm being forced to pay much more than needed for what is considered a necessity nowadays in our modern lives. Abolishing net neutrality is going to just make it easier for big ISPs to exploit the common man.

—Darren Ting, Columbus, IN

Eliminating net neutrality restricts access to information based on privilege (corporate website will be able to afford fees for preferential treatment while independent sites will be left wanting). This is akin to restricting our access to specific books in the library based on which publishers and authors paid enough money to increase access to their books, leaving up and comers and small timers to be left on the outside looking in. It will stifle creativity and invention, things that truly make America great, and the envy of the rest of the world. The freedom to treat all people equally is not something we should be willing to negotiate on. Pandering to the rich is the worst form of compromise. Please maintain net neutrality and reject the proposed restrictions and classify ISPs as common carriers (which is EXACTLY what they are).

—Justin Shapiro, Chico, CA

The idea that the internet can be throttled into two separate speed tiers and that both customers and businesses alike can be forced to pay increased rates to enjoy high speed internet goes against everything that the founding fathers believed in. This does nothing but makes it harder for small businesses to break in and make an impact. The cable companies started to experience losses when streaming over the internet became preferable to jumping through their monetary hoops to watch what we want to watch. Now all they're trying to do is gain control to the alternative of what they initially offer. This is as close to an entertainment monopoly as we have had.

—Robert Dielman, Alexandria, VA

It is imperative that we have a source that is capable of allowing every human being an opportunity to contribute to this world. Whether is be in music, art or invention. An avenue for every individual regardless of financial status could forever change the landscape of our world via the internet. If you have ever come up with an idea and have tried to get a patent for it you will understand that it takes wealth not just some money, but lots of money to get it off the ground. So instead you have to walk up to someone, with all the money, hat in hand and give him all your blood, sweat and tears so that the world can benefit from your brilliance. If by some miracle they agree to help, you get what is equivalent to a pat on the back, while they get to buy a new yacht with the proceeds of your idea. We must stand up to the FCC, who works for us, and say no to big business. No to destroying net neutrality, No to restrictions on content on the most powerful communication platform ever developed. A free market needs a place that is free to access whatever we can produce. Final point, the communications companies did not become multi-billion dollar corporations by giving us a good deal, they did it by bilking us out of every dime we were willing to give them for their product. Yes, this is free market, but I can't get another provider in my area to compete with them at this time, that is not free market. Here's an idea, check out "Click Network" in Tacoma Washington. Stick that in your pipe and smoke it Comcast.

—Roger Legg, Puyallup, WA

I favor equal access to all forms of information and media on the internet. The suppression, and that is what it essentially is, of sites unwilling or unable to pay exhorbinant fees to ISPs is a direct assault on subscribers' freedom of expression (by choosing what media they consume) and a direct contradiction to the initial purpose for which the internet was created.

—Tom Lower, Cedar Rapids, IA

Dear FCC, I sincerely can't even believe there is a need for me or anyone to say this, but for the love of god leave our net neutrality be. It is beyond obvious that this is to the sole benefit of these already amazingly rich companies and anyone big internet company who could dish out money for the 'fast lane'. This is the internet equivalent of there being only one place in your whole country where you could buy food, where they would make poor people pay double the price for the same product. Clearly it is nothing but ridiculous, so please stop this in its tracks before it ruins the internet for everyone. Sincerely, Someone not even from your country.

—Nikki, Den Bosch,

Protect the freedom of information. Net nueutrality is the only way.

—Ky Potts, bloomington, IN

I don't appreciate corporate monoliths manipulating government rules and regulations, at the expense of the common man.

—Greg Borchers, Jackson Center, OH

Dear FCC, I believe the internet to be a wonderful new communication tool that has enabled so many new endeavors, and made existing services so much more accessible. And a key reason behind this is net neutrality. All sites are equally accessible, regardless of who runs them, and that's how we both enable and incentivise innovation in online services. Bigger corporations cannot allow themselves to become complacent as they are always in competition with smaller startups, who may just upstage them by coming up with better ideas. And smaller startups can actually work on delivering quality services, instead of wasting their valuable time and resources trying to appease the ISPs, as net neutrality keeps a check on their ability to fleece online startups. This is not to imply that all ISPs are greedy and money-hungry. In fact, their argument that more flexibility in what they're allowed to charge online services will be better for business is a legitimate one. However, I believe in this case, the needs of the ISPs should be subordinated in favor of the needs of the public at large. The public at large stands to greatly benefit from the current environment of net neutrality, as a level playing field both empowers and encourages people of all backgrounds to make a positive difference in this world. Communication and broadcasting services like Facebook, Skype and YouTube have been able to thrive on the internet because their beginnings, no matter how humble, did not automatically put them at a disadvantage. Innovative business models, such as those pioneered by services like Netflix may have never taken off unless net neutrality had allowed them to focus on their content instead of dealing with ISP demands. Because though the ISPs may only want what is best for their business, it is a dangerous idea to empower them to control accessibility to different internet services. Soon, people will start lobbying the ISPs, and success in the online marketplace may become less about the quality of your services and more about your relationship with the corporation that owns your ISP. It's not difficult to see what an unhealthy future that would be. It is therefore imperative that we preserve net neutrality, and put the needs of the public at large over the needs of the ISPs.

—Pulak Kumar, New Delhi,

As a struggling novelist I need net neutrality so that my books can be read just as easily as more established authors. Making it more difficult to access my works will only hurt me and my fans.

—Lynda Behling, Staten Island, NY

Net Neutrality is important for protection of the freedom of speech promised in the constitution, which, if Net Neutrality is ended, companies like Verizon, Comcast, and AT&T would be able to take away for greedy profit. The end of Net Neutrality would essentially be the beginning of having to pay huge amounts for anyone to enjoy their constitutional rights.

—William Beatty, Westford, MA

seriously why? There is no good reason.

—Gael Jehanno, aulnay sous bois,

The fact that I need to point out how personal use and freedoms are more important than corporate greed is sad enough, but I guess I should. I get hosed every day by corporations in hundreds of ways. It would be nice to not get hosed on the internet too. Unfortunately I don't have millions to lobby with so I get to just throw my voice into the barrel and hope one more shout of "Keep the net neutral" will work. But I will be honest, I don't expect our representatives to represent us and our government to protect us in any way at all. For that simple reason listed above, I don't have millions to pay them with. So I will enjoy the internet while I can and watch it get wrecked piece by piece and get told how it's really good for me to take this screwing.

—Howard Nenno, San Jose, CA

The new rules are awful.

—Duran Muminoff, Toronto,

Freedom.

—Al mahan, Portland, OR

You cannot seriously think that allowing internet service providers to pick and choose which sites get "priority" speeds on the internet is a good idea for anyone but them. It amazes me that this is even in question. This sort of thing would only help those companies that are put in control, which is why they are pushing so hard to make this happen. I am convinced that there is not a single person (who isn't directly connected to these cable companies and set to make a HUGE profit) who would think this is a good idea. If this is allowed to happen, it would literally kill the internet and the freedom it represents. Why fix what isn't broken?

—Trevor Werner, Ames, IA

The idea of abolishing net neutrality seems dangerous and exploitative. Why should corporate cable have completely unregulated control? Why should they make even more money off of content that they didn't create, content created by the very people they wish to charge for the privilege? They provide the means, and I think we all understand paying for that, but essentially holding websites hostage seems a step too far. We are a country that believes that hard work should be rewarded, and many of these writers and artists deserve to have their efforts appreciated and rewarded. Sincerely, A concerned citizen

—Natalie Gaudreau, Burlington, VT

The cable companies monopoly on areas of the country is bad enough, now you want them to have a monopoly over internet traffic speeds as well? By creating this pay-for-faster-speeds ideal, it would ensure that the small businesses trying to find a niche market with the internet community aren't getting the same leg-up as the already established corporations.

—Katie Dillehay, Glen Burnie, MD

Net-neutrality is important to me, and to all of us, who don't stand to make a profit by extorting the many businesses, blogs, and social sites of the internet. Many people in this country are still struggling- ending net neutrality and thereby causing sites to charge patrons, or increase their prices is only going to be harmful to the consumer. Please do not allow net neutrality to end. Giving absolute power to corporations has never benefited any but the select few. The free speech of those unable to pay the companies' extortion fees will be violated, not the speech of the large companies themselves. They are already able to say whatever they want, slowing down the sites of people they don't like, or who can't pay, does not qualify as speech. It qualifies as cartoonishly evil. Or North Korean-esque. So please, let's keep net neutrality.

—Amanda, Columbia, IL

I pay for a service that provides me with internet at the agreed speed regardless of what the content of the browsing is. ISP'S are just making a greedy attempt to profit by screwing over their customers.

—Zachary Langer, Erie, PA

Net neutrality is very important to me & the economy. If you mess with it, a lot of intriguing start up companies won't have a chance. This would cause economic havoc, & stifle innovation. Creativity would lack outlets, lose momentum, & it's ability to inspire. In the short term cable cos. & a few large companies will do well, but eventually, the ensuing economic slump will be felt by them as well. Stifling the American economy helps no one in the long term.

—Linda Vavruska, Gainesville, FL

Keeping the internet free and neutral keeps power in the hands of everyone instead of money in the hands of those that would do us harm

—Rodman Boston, Philadelphia, PA

Throw out the rules against net neutrality and instead reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Brad Soblesky, Columbia, SC

We are a low income family and my children need internet for school. I can't afford to have cable companies charging sites that my children may need to do their home work because those companies will either have to charge me or stop existing all together. I can't afford to add another thing I have to pay for to my already straining household budget. My childrens education should be a priority just as your childs education should be a priority for you. It won't be if we get rid of net neutrality! So it won't be for so many inner city kids who already have a hard time!

—Danielle Jones, Silverlake, WA

I think you should get rid of net neutrality because right now there is way too much freedom of speech. There is also way too many choices, I want a mega corporation telling me what information to consume and how I should be watching TV and movies. And furthermore can we do something about clothes and fashion is there a way we can get rid of all these choice maybe just a nice khaki jumpsuit? Also food just too much let's just regulate it to some sort of protein paste with essential vitamins (essential determined by some corporation of course)? I'm also sick of trying to figure out my career can we have some sort of place that just picks out and tells me my career? And housing can we have just big.. I don't know camps that we live in? That would sound like a great future.

—Randy Walton, Northwood, OH

Because it's the FUCKING INTERNET! You can't control it.

—Mark Walker, London,

The internet is a utility, the airwaves belong to all of us. The internet should be regulated by the government for fair access for all. The large cable companies and broadband providers are only concerned with profit. It is a disgrace the amount of money they charge for access that should be available to all and at the same bandwidth. PLEASE stand up to the corporate greed and save the internet for all of us.

—Michael McGrath, Manahawkin, NJ

Hello, I'm just taking a moment to write to you about why Net Neutrality is important to me. Likely, this site wouldn't work as well on non-net neutral ISP's connections. It's my opinion that net neutrality is important to the protection of free speech. There's nothing better about America than the fact that we are openly allowed to speak our minds, and suffer the repercussions of our peer's judgement or support, without being stifled by large corporations and the government. I would like to see the beautiful environment that the internet has fostered continue to grow and develop on its own, pushed forward by the people, the real creators, and not the corporations who would control the creative process by choking the life out of new sites before they got off the ground. The development of so many different sites is an amazing thing; it's simply going to disappear. The ecosystem is going to shut down, we're going to lose what makes the internet great: diversity.

—Scan Rowe, Farmington, ME

Net must be neutral!!! It is one of America's greatest assets and defines us as a people...Make it fair.

—Lisa E.Brewer, Spokane, WA

Net must be neutral!!! It is one of America's greatest assets and defines us as a people...Make it fair.

—David Caporicci, Spokane, WA

Enough lies and corporate lobbyists. The people do not want this. Do your job as public servants and bring back net neutrality.

—Sean Spendley, Keene, NH

Net neutrality is essential to protect the free internet - which is very important to this world. It allowed amazing startups and internet technologies to thrive at the same level field as other companies. The world would not be the same today if net neutrality did not exist.

—Dima Konev, Moscow,

Seriously. If you need the negatives of eliminating Net Neutrality explained to you, it is a glowing sign illuminating the obsolescence of your agency. The people of the nation clearly do not want the greatest communication tool ever created by mankind to be regulated by monstrous corporations with unethical profiteering as their primary goal. You shouldn't either.

—Richard Clark, Lake City, MN

I run a small business and without net neutrality I'll be shut down. Stop focusing on cable companies and focus on the people you're hurting.

—Jessica, Churchville, NY

In today's society, the internet has become an integral part of everyday life. It may not even be too much to say that easy internet access is a necessity for those wishing to live a modern life. From students who use the internet for research and homework, to the common homebody who uses it to find recipes and how to videos on fixing and improving the home, the internet has become a way for people to attach to something greater than themselves. It is our connection to the greater world, and is now at stake due to a few rich people who want to get richer at the expense of the average American. If companies such as Verizon and Comcast are allowed to spend millions of dollars to fool and lie to you and the American public just so they can make a few more dollars, then this society is no longer free and we would become an autocracy to the cable companies and other major corporations. Now that would just be sad.

—Christopher Crider-Plonka, Swansea, MA

Dear FCC, Net Neutrality is important to me because it ensures that the average citizen will have access to everything the internet has to offer without having to be extorted by a corporations which are intent upon squeezing profits from every possible source at the expense of consumers everywhere. While I applaud their zeal in defense of their bottom line, as that is what any canny company should do, I detest their methods, and in this case what must be case aside for that bottom line; namely my ability to receive internet services. I am the owner/operator of a small internet based forum, one in which I have less than 50 users. This costs me roughly 75 dollars a year. If net neutrality is not enforced, my user base would experience a decrease in service due to my ISP extorting me for additional money to continue hosting this forum. This would most likely remove free forum hosting services as well, as they would be unable to offer a quality service on the advertising dollars of existing contracts. This could send us back to the days of dial-up networking, when other countries enjoy internet freedom and speeds which look upon ours and laugh at how pathetic our is. This would effect our economy, as only the big web based companies could afford the best speeds, thus creating an entry barrier for any small to medium size firm that attempted to enter into internet based business. Before I start rambling, I will leave you with this: The people of the United States of America need net neutrality to continue our way of life. Please reclassify ISP's as common carriers. Do not be responsible for continued discrimination against the common man.

—Jeremy Baumann, Kalamazoo, MI

The internet is a valuable public resource and it is important that greedy corporations not be allowed to regulate it as they see fit. Broadband internet should be a public utility and everyone should have equal access to it.

—James M Wilkinson, Magnolia, MS

I want net neutrality so that my son can use the Internet at his whim as he grows older, without having to worry about being able to afford the premiums that the isps will apply. throw out your new rules and reclassify ISPs as common carriers.

—Derrick Bergeron, North Kingstown, RI

Net neutrality is necessary for the next evolution of the human social experience, the net has brought us all together destroying neutrality will destroy what could be a new age of world understanding, just so some people can make even more money or that's worth losing world understanding?

—Robert, Houston, TX

Net neutrality is essential to human development, and that's not an exaggeration. Open and unaltered access to the internet is the keystone of its utility as a source of information for everyone. You must redefine ISPs as common carriers, regulating data the same way you do energy. It's our data, not theirs, and they have NO RIGHT to manipulate it.

—Nicholas Pantazis, Indianapolis, IN

I really do not like the idea that ISPs may one day be able to decide what we access by limiting those who do not pay for higher speeds. I think that it smells of greed and a kind of elitism. The internet should be a place of open communication and innovation. The idea that those who control access might have the power to limit what I can have access to does not sit well with me.

—Rob Walton, Bossier City, LA

I strongly support Net Neutrality. The world is becoming more digital by the moment, and the Internet is the modality for change in the world. Any attempt to limit my ability to receive information only undermines basic rights of speech, press and assembly.

—Kyle Gamache, Pawtucket, RI

By killing net neutrality, you are essentially killing off small internet businesses, just like how the giant corporate chain stores are slowly killing off local small businesses (you know which ones I'm talking about). I really don't want to live in some dystopian future where every facet of my life is dictated by giant conglomerated corporations, even though that's very much becoming a reality. I'm tired of the corporate greed. How much money is enough money?!

—Dustin Kavich, Louisville, KY

I support many start-up organizations and many non-profit organizations that without Net Neutrality they would be unable to exist.

—Brett Alden Livingston, Ledyard, CT

Without Net Neutrality it would basically mean the end of the little guy having a fair shot of starting or even doing anything at all on the internet. Starting an online business selling artisan soaps in the shapes of famous abolitionists? No one is going to wait 20 minutes for a website to load, no matter how much they want a lavender scented Harriet Tubman. They'll just end up buying their soap from Walmart. How about the plucky young writer who is creating and releasing a mind twisting murder-mystery novel in serial form entirely online? Wait, the writer's website doesn't make oodles Scrooge McDuck sized piles of money? Nah, the Barnes and Nobles website loads way faster than that one, just read a different book, bro. How about Your Aunt Belinda's cooking Blog? You know, the one that has that killer fish taco recipe with the homemade pineapple salsa? Hey, where is her blog, anyway? Oh, it's that white page that's been trying to load for the past half hour? Taco Bell's website has delivery options now, right? The only thing that getting rid of Net Neutrality will do is help Internet Service Providers and their buddies (i.e. people who have the money to 'fast-lane') screw over everybody else and dominate the market. No more start-up online businesses, no indie online magazines, no more discovering new and potentially game changing artists and ideas unless they come from someone who is a buddy* (*see above) of the Service Providers. And if we do get Net Neutrality taken from us, the Internet Service Providers would be able to effectively silence all their opposition online to get it overturned with snail-paced internet. Net Neutrality is the lifeblood of the internet, and they are trying to drain all the blood so they can butcher the meat for profit.

—Zack Kreil, Columbus, OH

As an American freedom is important to me, and the internet as a community and means of communicating should stay the way it is.

—Taylor Mizvitowicz, Philadelphia, PA

As an author, artist, teacher, and independent publisher, I support Net Neutrality and the ability to have the content I create, publish, and/or share to be accessible by all who seek it without fear of data discrimination.

—TA Noonan, Knoxville, TN

The internet as a free interactive space for people to not only receive but share is vital in our development as a society. While allowing an oligopoly in a consumer good is limiting to the population's choice in that good and allowing one in a basic human need is tantamount to slavery, allowing it in the internet is much more insidious. Certainly, it's obvious that our economy is at least substantially supported by, if not now resting on the foundation of electronic commerce, and our ability to communicate ideas and meet needs has been expanded exponentially through the space that is the internet. This trend has improved our quality of life. If an individual or group of entities that are motivated by profit, not only will we sacrifice the opportunity to effectively and efficiently grow our economy and society, we will regress at least 20 years before people realize the importance of retaining the internet as a public good. I tend to dislike regulation of private enterprise, but systems of goods, public water, electricity, and broadcast frequency have all been licensed and regulated to prevent a twisting of of their use to the benefit of a few through its privation to the many. The internet is as important as the least of these. If we allow this aggregation of power of the internet, the last vestiges of America as a great society will crumble. We need the industry and creativity of the people, but that requires a medium of creation and exchange. More and more that medium is the internet... and it is so for so many good reasons. Please, we, the people of the world, need to stop this current threat to that future. I pray that we will have the vision and dispassion to make the correct choice in the face of the mountain of money being thrown at giving these people control over this necessary resource.

—Matthew, Sumner, WA

The internet needs to stay neutral if it is to continue to grow and thrive. Doing away with net neutrality only goes to serve big companies that are established enough to afford the extra bandwidth and internet service providers. Keeping the net neutral is in the best interest of those who use it the most- consumers.

—Richard Brackner, Tuscaloosa, AL

There is no single benefit of getting rid of net neutrality. Except for the bottom line to the cable providers. And even that could be tenuous after they raise their rates along the continual trends.

—DJ Finney, Lebanon, MO

Ignore the lobbying for a moment, and let's take a look at the bottom line - everyone wants a FREE (as in liberty, not cost) and EQUAL internet. "Fast Lanes" and other services offered to those who have the cash to afford it, and at the expense of reducing quality of service to the majority of regular users (who incidentally are also the majority of the users) makes sense only to those who wish to front flimsy and vague reasons why it's good - instead of just being truthful and saying that they stand to make a LOT more money. US citizens are already paying the most for internet access in the world and getting a poor amount of bandwidth for it. Do we really think further exacerbating the divide is going to make things better for the majority of users? Of course not. Please take a stand and allow the internet to continue to be the one place left on this planet that is as close to free as can be - because otherwise we continue to prove that telecommunications is yet another thing that can easily be bought by the rich.

—Travis R Austin, Austin, TX

Net neutrality is important to every aspect of people's virtual rights, so we should keep it! Big cable companies just think about how they can make more money and charge extras for anything they provide. KEEP UP NET NEUTRALITY! Luiz Carlos, from Brasil.

—Luiz Carlos Di Froschia Pereira, Goiânia,

Disabled people, visually, auditory, bodily or otherwise need FULL access to the web. The Internet is not to be trifled with. The web is for EVERYONE.

—Kate, Sydney,

Net neutrality is the only way to ensure that the Internet continues to function equally for everyone. Since the SEC and Justice department have no interest in preventing the formation of oligopolies and thereby reducing our choice of cable providers (I have 1 choice in my local market!), its up to the FCC to create rules for the only company operating in my market to play by. Tom Wheeler is a blow job to the telecommunications industry. Someone at the FCC must stand up for net neutrality, we know Tom's buddies over at Comcast will prevent him from doing anything.

—Zachary Jara, Denver, CO

Why would we want big rich corporations controlling what we can see? Really? That doesn't sound shady as fuck? Trying to get rid of Net Neutrality is like some super villain conspiracy plot from a damned movie! If Net Neutrality goes, then so do I. I will not pay to line someone's pockets just so they can let me see what they want me to see.

—Jess, Hagerstown, MD

This is clearly an attempt to make more money for big business and worse, to make the internet more readily available to people who are better off and restrict lower income people from accessing it!! The internet provides people a chance to learn and grow, and possibly get out of the rut of poverty. Don't take that away from them and encourage a separation of "classes".

—Rebecca Coughlin, Wellington, FL

Freedom of speech...plain and simple. How hard is that to understand?

—Steve Castaneda, San Antonio, TX

anyone who CANT see, that this is a blatant attempt to restrict freedoms and suck MORE money out of already struggling American citizens, needs his head examined. the internet belongs to everyone. EVERYONE. not the ISPs

—Carisa Luongo, Endicott, NY

I don't believe I need to go on and on about the subject. Net neutrality is a NECESSITY. That is all.

—Carter Jules, Paris,

The one word that describes the FFC Net Neutrality laws would be : Unconstitutional. Not only will these laws allow for large companies to discriminate between hard working web users that create applications such as Netflix and Hulu, but it is a clear violation of the 5th amendment which seems to be the justification of this law. You are basically using Eminent Domain to take control of the internet, something that is controlled by no one and owned by everyone. You are taking it and giving it to large corporations that can then charge you for use. I thought we lived in America? Land of the free. This isn't freedom, this is discrimination that we have fought long and hard to get rid of. The internet was created so that it can freely be used, without restriction, without having to pay for its basic functions. You should be ashamed of yourselves. You are part of a generation that never used the internet like myself and the younger generations do, So how could you possible know what it means to keep ISP's as common carriers. Or is it that you just don't care? There is no justifiable reason that companies like AT&T or Verizon can come up with that makes this ok. They only want money, they care nothing for the common people like me that need to use the internet. Do the right thing, and keep the internet free for all to use. Freedom....isn't that what America is all about?

—Luke Parsons, Leroy, WV

Quit letting corporations decide what's best for me.

—Jamie, Brooklet, GA

The internet is a means of communication. It cannot be divided and sold off to whoever has the most money. Not to mention its full of our generation's mom and pop stores! Small businesses through eBay or Etsy, blogs with advertising, etc. The system is not broke, leave it as it is. Unfortunately, the only thing wrong with the current system is that it doesn't include a nice new way to get internet companies even more rich.

—Erica Blankenship, Lee's Summit, MO

The FCC should not be in the pocket of these ISPs. Net Neutrality is one of the most important issues in this country!

—Raymond Rodriguez, Brentwood, NY

I pay an Internet bill exactly the same as I do a electric, water, garbage, and gas bill. I expect regulation of this utility as well. It is my right to a fair and equal service.

—Brandon C Burgess, Portland, OR

The internet has become a public utility, as important as electricity, telephone service, and water and sewer. It's important that everyone has equal access to it. Would it make sense to let water companies deliver water faster to rich people?

—Gordon Best, Tucson, AZ

I have read 1984 and did not in fact put the book down feeling as though big brother was the protagonist

—Katie, Goose creek, SC

Net Neutrality allows the free exchange of ideas by almost anyone in our society, and is therefore the strongest current outlet for free speech. It's destruction would cripple the flow of information on the internet. Please retain net neutrality and guarantee equal access to information for everyone.

—Brian Powell, Durham, NC

Net Neutrality is crucial for a free and open internet. The only people who want it and stand to profit are huge cable corporations. For the rest of us, net neutrality promotes innovation and economic chances.

—Liora Cohen, Dallas, TX

America needs net neutrality to foster healthy competition. Without it big companies will just get richer while innovation and quality of service will stagnate due to effective monopolies. America was founded on equal opportunity and doing away with net neutrality denies start-up businesses exactly that.

—Brett Butler, Beaufort, SC

Never have so many been able to access so much. Don't let another multi-billion dollar company make the rules for this country. This is just another example of the US being only interested in keeping rich people rich and poor people poor.

—Savannah Ervin, Denver, CO

Getting rid of Net Neutrality would cost billions for the economy through the absence of new products! All because that person wouldn't be able to afford that extra fee in order to go as fast as Google or Facebook.

—Jonathan, Saint Peters, MO

It prevents the restriction of free speech, protects small online businesses, and prevents unnecessary rises in consumer costs, which could stifle the economy.

—Kelsey Wall, Worcester, MA

Free speech is for human beings, not faceless corporations with no souls or morals. You take away our rights when you show favor to rich groups and individuals. The internet is the greatest communication tool the world has ever seen and without neutrality it will be dead before half the world even gets access to it. Shame on the government and shame on the corporations that would abuse and destroy this tool for their own profit. The real solution to the traffic problem is for these big internet companies to develop new technology that boosts speed for everyone, not showing favor to he-who-pays-most. Then we can get everyone in the world online, communicating, sharing experiences and ideas, and create a better place to live and a better future for all of us.

—Taylor Troy, san antonio, TX

Net Neutrality is important to me because it is a big part of my first amendment right I should be allowed to load up any website at the same time as the cable companies would allow me to see their site if there was net neutrality. Dont ruin our lives and stomp on our rights just to make a quick buck, thank you.

—Alexander James Maden, North Providence, RI

I don't see why ending net neutrality is even a consideration. All this seems to achieve is earning big corporations more money, making it harder to start up a website (which alone would result in a sharp loss of business for web designers), result in the death of any sort of artistic expression such as webcomics (which, incidentally, is how i caught wind of all this, and is in itself a form of free speech) and teach big companies that they can get away with walking over their consumers with full support of the government just by throwing money at it. As someone who likes to believe there's still some good in this world, I would like not to see the new medium of communication and free speech silenced in such a way. While i'm not sure this adds anything to what I've been saying, my current internet service charges around \$50 a month for internet which is about twice the speed of dial-up, and I find it insulting that "communications companies" would spend such a large sum of money lobbying to make themselves obscene amounts of money rather than bringing affordable internet to areas who don't have it. The fact that the idea of ending net neutrality is even being considered for no reason other than lobbying makes me think that maybe society isn't about giving to your community anymore, but instead taking from it.

—Jimmy, Steelville, MO

The vast majority of U.S. citizens use the internet every day for both business and entertainment. If net neutrality were to be ended it would affect almost every single person in the country negatively. Considering that internet access is used as a utility, it should be classified and regulated as such. If something like the two-tiered Internet were to be approved, I would seriously consider becoming an expatriate.

—Nick Miller, McDonald, PA

You, the person who is physically reading this on the other end if it's not just sent to a trash folder know that the only people against net neutrality are the people who'd gain money off of it ending and the only reason our side isn't heard is because we don't have millions of dollars to create campaigns lobbying to uphold net neutrality. I expect a reply as to why this would be in everyones best interests and please don't use Verizon's excuse that it violates their rights of the first and fifth amendment.

—Antonio West Hernandez, Roanoke, AL

Net Neutrality is important not just to individual users but to small companies that do not have the ability to pay the outrageous fees that the companies would charge for the "fast lane". The only ones who support over turning Net Neutrality are the cable companies that would profit from this, and the politicians who are in the pockets of these companies. Do the right thing. Keep the Net Neutral.

—Lara Goodwill, Gaithersburg, MD

I pay enough for my Internet service. I don't need to pay more. Leave the internet alone!

—David Caramiciu, warwick, RI

This is essentially a version of censorship, but by big companies. Net neutrality is crucial to budding businesses. Allowing the two-tier system will stifle creativity and small businesses. How is this NOT undermining the intent of the anti-trust act and supporting the inherent harm that monopolies cause?

—Tyler Casey, Salem, MA

Message to the FCC regarding Net Neutrality: The Internet is not a plot of real estate you can just snap up and convert into an exclusive resort spa for the excessively affluent. The Internet is technology itself. What you're trying to do is sell yourselves the required number of bristles on a toothbrush at marked-up prices while offering low-income peasants the luxury of rotting teeth. Keep Internet usage at a flat affordable rate available to everyone. There are ways to make a quick buck that don't include stripping 95% of Internet users of their online rights and participation.

—James Halpin, Westerville, OH

I'd rather not pay extra for a service I already get, and I certainly don't want my speed reduced just because I, or the sites I use, can't afford the fast lane. The idea of limiting the internet is stupid and greedy and everyone knows it. I want Net Neutrality. Make it a public utility please.

—Howard Lott, Lewisville, TX

Please reclassify Internet as a common carrier and save the Internet from corruption.

—Nathan Gingrich, Potsdam, NY

Will the next step be to make individuals pay to be able to speak in public? If we want to be heard we will have to throw money and lobbyists at you so that we can speak to others in a timely manner when we walk around in the world? That is essentially the real world application of this net neutrality debacle. I know the FCC is a government body, and my time in the US Army has shown me that the government can barely function, but I hope that you will be the exception. Don't let the cable companies decide what's best for everyone, they are wrong. No one who is motivated only by profits is an acceptable spokesperson for the people they are trying to rip off. Net neutrality is essential and should be your priority to maintain.

—Melanie Byrd, Fort Irwin, CA

If net neutrality disappears, I fear we are one step closer to fascism, or at least some blended form with aristocracy being the pivot. This act would, at least, fulfill the censorship aspect of such a regime by only allowing "players" to have a slice of the internet pie. It would in turn restrict competition (a fundamental tenet of capitalism) and further foment the building rage of the public. Look around, people are upset. Little things are building up, and if we continue to line the pockets of wealthy interests and cater to their desires of exponential wealth and perceived power, the public, no matter how ignorant you try to keep them, will rise up. History has taught us this simple fact. While I have major issues with what's going on in America and in the world, I do not want to see such a disruption to our society. If it has to happen for any real change to occur, so be it. Yet, I am not ignorant to the fact that such a course will create more problems than it initially solves. Wake up...your way of life depends on it.

—Brandon L. Calderon, Wichita, KS

Because it's a country by the people and FOR the people...not big bad companies!!

—America, Long Island, CA

For once stop letting corporations throw money at everything and doing whatever the hell that please. The only people who aren't for net neutrality are people who stand to gain billions of dollars from it. The average citizen is for net neutrality!

—William, Louisville, KY

It should be fairly obvious why losing Net Neutrality is a bad idea. I feel embarrassed that we as citizens even have to explain to the FCC why this is terrible. Anything that would allow discrimination online is a bad idea. Making certain sites pay more than others is discrimination in reference to internet service. Reclassifying ISPs as common carrier is another way to fix this.

—Jim Brown, Dumont, IA

I'm a nineteen year old college student and I need to use the internet to receive, do, and submit assignments. Without Net Neutrality, I wouldn't be able to afford an internet connection fast enough to perform these tasks in time to pass my classes. This would mean dropping out of college because of a handful of greedy cable companies wanting to charge me extra fees to use a service that really should be a tax paid public utility.

—Nestor Blanco, Miami, FL

Net Neutrality is important because Non Net Neutrality is literally against free speech. This country was founded on the principals that every person has inalienable rights and seceded from the country that denied it's citizens these rights. Our forefathers believed in a country where everyone was treated fairly and their voice, no matter how unpopular, was always heard. In this day and age with the PRIMARY form of communication is the internet and with very few options especially in America to connect to the internet and have your voice heard, it is vitally important that those who have the power do not become overly powerful. If these guidelines are passed it is essentially giving these few companies the power to control speech on the internet and in turn, how much information people are privy to. That is too much power for one man to hold.

—Corey Riddle, Philadelphia, PA

The reason the internet is the amazing resource it is for the world is the fact that it allows everyone an equal opportunity to be heard. By allowing these big companies to choose who can broadcast at what speed we are destroying what made the internet great in the first place. The internet should remain a place that allows the creativity of the big and small, the have and the have nots to be seen and heard without discrimination based on the contents of their wallets. Keep the Net Neutral and tell these companies to stop trying to shut out the little guy.

—Brian K. Cabral II, Orlando, FL

As the 21st century moves forward, net neutrality will be as important to the proper functioning of a free society as open airwaves were in the 20th century. It's the whole point of the FCC to protect this sort of thing on a fundamental level. Don't let obscene amounts of lobbying sway what should be a very simple concept. Keep net neutrality!

—Mike McIntyre, Waterford, NY

The internet is like any other medium and should remain neutral.

—Jackson Tetmeyer, Zionsville, IN

I support Net Neutrality and internet freedom. Giving private companies the ability to create a two-tiered internet opens the door for a deluge of abuses and discrimination dictated by cable companies.

—Matthew Geldersma, Verona, PA

I hope this is read with some interest based on the topic at hand, and the viewpoint of someone who works in this field. I am the marketing director of a decently sized company that sells products like Comcast and Verizon. My job is to make these products appealing and engage the consumer. A part of my paycheck depends on how well we sell Comcast and Time Warner Cable. The plans they have for the future of the internet however are something from a bad screenplay. The path they are attempting to become some sort of super corporation that controls a major aspects of every American's life and forcing other companies to pay their special fees (is this how extortion works) is something only a maniac could conceive. The false groups VZW and the cable networks are creating to say the public is in favor of eliminating Net Neutrality are obvious signs that something is wrong here. In the short term some already very wealthy men and women will become wealthier, but the progress of American ingenuity will suffer. This would be like car manufacturers in the 50's all agreeing the highest speed we should be allowed to get to is 40 MPH because they can charge rest stops a fee for people to use them more often since it will take twice as long to get to where they are going. We are asking you to not allow big businesses to ruin one of the greatest inventions of our time. The executives are demanding you halt human progress to buy a 5th beach home for their kids. I am a man who makes my living from the success of these companies and this is something I can clearly see being a colossal mistake.

—Jeff Barger, Fishers, IN

Net neutrality is crucial to the further development of society. Once you place open access in the hands of only those who can afford it, you are taking away development and progress from lower-income persons by restricting their education and their ability to interact with mainstream society (on the Internet).

—Mary Lee, Atlanta, GA

Ending Net Neutrality mean the end of what makes the internet a great advance for humanity: freedom of speech regardless of your economic or social status. Ending Net Neutrality would mean that only those with money can make their voice heard. That is the opposite of what the internet and America are supposed to be about.

—William Whitehouse, Indianapolis, IN

dear ISP: If i wanted censored internet with blocks/slow downs for certain site you don't like, I would move to China. Guess what? I don't! If Net Neutrality doesn't pass, every provider who uses it I will drop and switch to statelite. Get you **** together and listen to your customers for once.

—Jonathan, Moreno Valley, CA

The internet has always been a place where anyone can have their story heard as long as they had a good message. I don't want it to become a place where only the highest bidder is heard. That hardly sounds like a good world, does it? I believe Net Neutrality should be upheld and rigorously enforced. I'd even be willing to pay for the labor required to do so. Tax me if you must! Please, reclassify ISPs as common carriers!

—Jacob Aufderheide, Peoria, IL

Net Neutrality is important because it preserves competition and innovation. With net neutrality gone, monopolies emerge that are more interested in preserving their monopolies than providing the best service for the customer. This can best be seen in those who who advocate against net neutrality. With no significant competition, the cable companies that currently fight against net neutrality have used their power to enrich themselves instead of providing good customer service. With net neutrality, an even field is provided where projects, individuals, and companies can compete on an even footing and survive and thrive based on their merit, not how much resources they can afford to pay to ensure a faster streaming service. The most exemplary example of the benefits of net neutrality is Netflix. Thanks to net neutrality, it was able to compete on an even footing with the established companies in the same field and due to its innovations, it was judged as the best and thrived. In this debate over net neutrality, FCC has two options: sustain innovation by preserving competition, or encourage mediocrity by eliminating competition. But for the American people, there is only one choice: preserve net neutrality.

—Ronald Joseph, PHILADELPHIA, PA

The internet is the source of knowledge and ideas that cannot be censored and controlled. If congress does not listen to the American People, whom it's supposed to be representative of, then we as a people have no reason to pay taxes anymore, because clearly they are not OUR government. They are merely the pawns of the corporations.

—Kaili Ruggiero, silver spring, MD

Net neutrality is important because it protects free speech for everyone. It would be a violation if an ISP decided that a certain blog was at a tenth or hundredth speed of websites that either pay extra or lobby for support of their interests.

—Jeff, Hobart, IN

Net neutrality must be established and safeguarded permanently. I refuse to accept that we're ready to collar one of the most important inventions in history as an advertising vehicle for large providers. Designate ISPs as common carriers. Keep these companies from ruining the future as we know it. Do your duty.

—Trevor, Beulaville, NC

Net neutrality is important so that anyone can succeed in this country boy just those that can grease the lines. Net neutrality allows a more even playing field between start ups and giants.

—Emily halls, Lincoln, NE

Net Neutrality is important to me because big companies DONT OWN EVERYTHING

—Kat Oertli, Highland, UT

Do you really need to be told that we're sick of being screwed over by the power hungry or the mega corporations of the world? Please, please listen to the people who need to live in this world without millions of dollars as their aid. We want net neutrality. Thanks for your consideration.

—Matt Oyer, Rochester, NY

Sir/Ma'am, I implore you, on behalf of all the people who use the internet, to fight for us. Fight for our rights, and yours. Never, in the history of this world, has allowing a company to decide how to do their business with 0 regulation led to a positive and improved system for the consumers. And in this instance it is even more dire that the rights of the consumer be protected. The internet is used so widely, so commonly, and so dependently that it MUST be protected. We cannot allow there to be favoritism from websites for one site or another. This WILL lead to monopolies and an ever increasing charge for less content and service. Please protect our internet, protect our rights, and our desires. I understand this is a difficult fight, I understand this isn't going to be an easy battle. But if you truly represent the people, as government should, this is a fight we must win.

—Jonathan Biddle, APO, NY

Freedom of information is what our country was founded on. By placing the power to throttle or deny information you would be setting up the ability to completely control consumer content and thereby sentiment. This could eventually turn into a Technocracy where we all do as we are told rather than thinking independently. Carriers should have the right to limit total speed....not selected speeds/ content.

—Chris Ochs, Graham, WA

The internet is important to all of us. Corporations like Comcast and AT&T don't own America, and America doesn't exist to serve their interests and line their pockets!

—Rachel, Daytona beach, FL

As the Internet has grown over the past couple decades, it has become a cornerstone in nearly every person's life. From the everyday citizens who check Facebook and watch movies and TV shows on Netflix, to the creative types who create and promote art and music and literature using the Internet, to the thousands of businesses that use the Internet to promote themselves, there is practically nobody in the developed world who doesn't find themselves relying on the Internet on a daily basis. We need ALL parts of the Internet to function and for people to be able to make their own choice about which content they need to view, not the cable companies looking to promote their own interest by controlling the source. Net Neutrality is important to the success of the Internet, and to the success of the businesses and people who rely on it on a daily basis. All ISPs need to be classified as common carriers immediately to preserve this important piece of infrastructure.

—Branden Meyers, Staunton, VA

I am writing to express my concern regarding the status of net neutrality, and the cable companies who are threatening it. The Internet is the most powerful social tool in the history of man. It has allowed us to communicate in ways never before possible. A starving artist can showcase his work to an unimaginably broad audience instead of spending his last dime renting a local gallery and crossing his fingers in the hope a critic will show up and enjoy his art. Killing net neutrality is a step backwards. Sure, it's great for the cable industry, which must be suffering gravely what with all of the television we watch and the millions of smart phones we carry. But it is a savage blow to everyone who aspires to start a small business, or freely communicate their opinions. These companies are already monopolizing the way we communicate. I am aware that the goal of every company is to make more money, but this goes beyond the fiscal element. To give a company the ability to charge websites for faster access essentially gives them the power of censorship. What chance would an upstart communication company have, for example, if they were being forced to pay their largest competitors simply for the privelage of having a functioning website? The CEO of Verizon stumbles across a website he finds morally questionable? Charge them into oblivion, or throttle their bandwidth to archaic speeds. Without Net Neutrality, the cable companies are given the power to fliter out anything they choose. It's no wonder they're pouring such exorbitant amounts of money into trying to make net neutrality go away. It would make them supreme overlords of the internet! That's power you can't buy, or at least it should be. They have the unmitigated nerve to claim that net neutrality is a violation of the 1st ammendment? What about the free speech of everyone else in this country, whose rights they would be allowed to charge for. In America, no one should have to pay a corporation for the rights guaranteed to them by the constitution. That is why I believe net neutrality came to be in the first place, and why I believe it needs to stay. Thank you for your time.

—Ian Grieve, DuBois, PA

I have internet access as an investment in my children. I don't make a lot of money. It took me months to save for a computer. If you don't reclassify ISPs as common carriers I fear my kids will be back to bundling up in three of four layers of clothes and walking to the library in the middle of winter to get their homework done. That is, if the library could afford faster service if you kill net neutrality. Everything from middle school on up is done on computers/internet these days. Many children will be hurt without net neutrality.

—Keisha Mckay, Hartford, WI

Dear FCC, I can't offer a lengthy discourse via legal jargon on why I support net neutrality, and frankly I'm sad that anyone should have to. The reality of this situation is that there is a right choice, and a wrong choice regarding a mandate for Net Neutrality. One option serves the people (remember- that's your job), and the other option stuffs another fistfull of dollar bills into a few people's pockets. Don't think for a second that there's any legitimate good trickling down from this proposal. Any increased earnings by internet providers won't fall to the guy working for \$7.50/hr. Rather they'll slink into another private jet for an executive who's toughest decision of the day is whether to have his dinner in Venice, or in Paris. Please, for the sake of freedom and human decency, I implore you to think of the people (Americans) who trust you to do the right thing. I support Net Neutrality, and God save us all if you don't feel the same way.

—A Tuinenga, Traverse City, MI